



Mr. Roy F. Schaub
3901 Middlegate Rd
Westlake Village CA 91361-4124



5/16

w/r

MR. JARED BLUMENFELD
ADMINISTRATOR REGION 9
U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
75 HAWTHORNE STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105

9410543922



05-13-13

Dear MR JARED BLUMENFELD

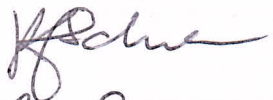
I am writing to express my strong opposition to the U.S. EPA's proposed "Malibu Creek and Lagoon TMDL for Sedimentation and Nutrients to Address Benthic Community Impairments".

On May 1, 2013, I attended a public workshop for the TMDL at the Agoura Hills City Hall along with approximately 160 other concerned residents; there was standing room only in the City Council Chambers. My comments echo those of the broader community. Many of those present spoke out against the proposed regulation at the meeting. You should know that this regulation is not supported by the community, who will bear the costs for its implementation.

The following are among the many concerns brought up at the meeting and left unanswered by EPA staff: (1) there is inadequate evidence that the new regulation will reduce algae cover in Malibu Creek; (2) the natural characteristics of the Malibu Creek watershed have largely been dismissed; (3) the TMDL is being rushed to meet an arbitrary deadline at the expense of scientific rigor and stakeholder input; (4) an existing 2003 Nutrient TMDL has not been fully implemented; and (5) the cost of compliance is estimated to be \$307 million in capital costs and \$23.5 million annually for operations and maintenance.

I ask that the U.S. EPA consider these concerns and take the necessary steps to answer these issues in full, before proceeding with any new regulations.

Sincerely,


Rolf F. Schaub
2901 MIDDLEBATE RD
WESTLAKE VILLAGE, CA 91361

(over)



Locals not happy with EPA clean water plan

■ Burden costly and unnecessary, critics say

By Sylvie Belmond
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About 150 residents and community leaders packed the Agoura Hills City Council chamber last week and opposed a plan by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency that aims to reduce pollution in the Malibu Creek watershed.

The EPA is considering more stringent water quality standards for the watershed, a move that could triple the sewer bills for 100,000 ratepayers in local communities.

"As with any state or federal program, the consequences are borne by the local agencies," said Oak Park resident Manju Venkat, an environmental biologist for Southern California Edison and a former water quality specialist for the state of California.

Millions of dollars already have been spent toward the pursuit of clean streams and beaches, Venkat said.

"Where is the funding? Who is going to give the money to the local agencies to take this on?" he asked.

The new standards are set to go into effect May 24. The Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board will be in charge of phasing in the new clean water measures.

If the regulations are applied as proposed, they could put ratepayers in the Las Virgenes and Triunfo water districts on the hook for an estimated \$307 million in new treatment facilities and \$23.5 million a year for operation and maintenance costs.